USSN: 10/723,389
Docket No.: 2003B103/2
Response dated March 17, 2006
Reply to Office Action of February 17, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Election/Restriction

In response to the requirement to make an election, Applicant elects Group III, Claims 33-65 and 72, drawn to a die plate, classified in class 425, subclass 378.1, with traverse.

Applicants respectfully contend that the Restriction Requirement is improper on the basis that a search of all of the inventions in the application would not be unduly burdensome to the Examiner. Applicants particularly plead that a search directed to the invention of Group I, II, and Group IV, in addition to Group III would not be burdensome to the Examiner, and for that reason the restriction of the invention is improper.

Applicants request that non-elected Group I, Claims 1-22, drawn to a method of extruding, classified in class 264, subclass 11.2, Group II, Claims 23-35, drawn to an extruded article, classified in class 428, subclass 357, and Group IV, Claims 66-71, drawn to a heater, classified in class 392, subclass 465, be withdrawn from consideration until at least one of the elected Group III claims is found allowable. As provided in MPEP Chapter 821.04, Applicants respectfully reserve the right to rejoin non-elected claims in Group I, Claims 1-22, drawn to a method of extruding, Group II, Claims 23-35, drawn to an extruded article, and Group IV, Claims 66-71, drawn to a heater.

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CONCLUSION

If any points remain in issue that the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

<div align="right">Respectfully submitted,</div>

Date: <u>March 17, 2006</u>

<div align="right">Maria C. Walsh
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